

MINUTES
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES
MARCH 19, 1998

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Thursday, March 19, 1998, at 9:00 a.m. in room 507 of the Education and Research Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

Members present: Yvonne Brown; Sara Fox; Joanna Heidel; Billy Hewes; Henry Hudspeth; John Junkin, II; Patricia Puckett; William Seal; and George Walker.

Member absent: Hazel Terry.

Staff in attendance: Dr. Olon Ray, Executive Director, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Becky Cade, Dr. Larry Day, Deborah Gilbert, Sandra Lucas, Patrick McKinnis, Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Dr. Evelyn Webb, and Frankie Walton White.

Guests in attendance: Nancy Alley representing the State Department of Education and Dr. Barry Mellinger via CCN.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman George Walker at 9:10 a.m.

PRELIMINARIES

The invocation was given by Yvonne Brown.

Approval of Minutes

Joanna Heidel asked that the minutes of the February 19 and 20, 1998, be changed to reflect that the Board approved a "fast track" technical certificate program for Hinds Community College's Rankin Campus, Jackson Campus - Academic/Technical Center, and Raymond Campus. On a motion by Henry Hudspeth, seconded by John Junkin, the Board approved the amended minutes of the February 19 and 20, 1998, meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of Agenda

Chairman George Walker requested that an item be added to the Finance Report dealing with the renewal of a surety bond for SBCJC members. On a motion by John Junkin, and a second by Billy Hewes, the Board voted unanimously to approve the amended agenda.
MACJC Report

Dr. Barry Mellinger reported, via the CCN, on the following items discussed at the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior College's meeting on February 24, 1998:

Mrs. Eloise Richardson discussed with the presidents the proposed GED testing guidelines for alternative school programs.

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The Association approved the appointment of Dr. Clyde Muse, MACJC Legislative Committee Chairman, to serve as the state's legislative liaison to the American Association of Community College's National Legislative Action Network.

The Association approved participation in a project that will track the progress of GED recipients at community and junior colleges versus that of high school graduates being completed by Pat Vanderloo, a doctoral intern from the University of Southern Mississippi.

The Association discussed athletic matters related to the MACJC 12 hour rule and officially sanctioned men's and women's soccer.

Dr. Olon Ray updated the Association on the activities of the SBCJC. Dr. Ray shared a copy of Executive Order Number 780 altering the State One-Stop Interagency Executive Council (OSIEC) membership to include the State Workforce Council and Local Workforce Councils.

Dr. Ray gave an update on the Council on Educational Technology Event scheduled for April 29, and 30, 1998, at the Holiday Inn Southwest in Jackson. He asked that the presidents mark their calendars and plan to attend.

Dr. Ray reported on a meeting of the SBCJC Funding and Formula Study Committee via the CCN. The meeting was requested by the MACJC at their January 27, 1998, meeting, to discuss suggested appropriations bill language changes to allow the counting of students enrolled in the fall term but not in attendance at the end of the sixth week. The overwhelming opinion was to wait and let the issue become part of any recommendations that the Funding and Formula Committee might make at a later date.

Deborah Gilbert updated the presidents on the House and Senate versions of the Support and Administration Appropriations Bills.

Dr. Ray announced that the last round of Technology Training Institutes would be offered on April 17, and 18, 1998.

Dr. Ray reported that the Creating Futures through Technology Conference held on February 3, and 4, 1998, was an overwhelming success. All fifteen community and junior colleges participated and 48% of the total attendance was community and junior college personnel. Dr. Ray announced that the Learning Exchange, a Mississippi ETV program, would feature an overview of the Ed Tech Trade Show, the Creating Futures Through Technology Conference and the Hope Scholarship.

Dr. Ray distributed a copy of a memorandum from Ms. Patsy Lee with the Splendors of Versailles Exhibition, announcing a National College Forum event to be held on April 28, through May 1, 1998. Ms. Lee expressed appreciation for the support of the community colleges in connection with the upcoming exhibit.

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The Association voted unanimously to commend the MACJC Choral Directors' Association for the outstanding program celebrating the fiftieth year of choral music in Mississippi's community and junior colleges.

Dr. Clyde Muse reported on legislation pending in the House and Senate affecting community and junior colleges. Dr. Muse also reminded presidents of a hearing on Senate Bill 2764, the legislation to establish enhanced offerings of higher education on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Dr. Muse encouraged the presidents to attend.

Dr. Eddie Smith reported on the Phi Theta Kappa All-State Academic Team Recognition Luncheon.

Dr. Howell Garner distributed a draft of a concept paper on the Virtual Community College Project. The paper includes issues discussed during various meetings and the Virtual Community College Retreat and lists recommendations and a suggested plan of action. The Association took the matter under advisement for action at a later date.

The Association approved payment for directors and officers liability coverage through Coregis Insurance Company, and for a fidelity bond through Travelers Insurance Group for the MACJC Executive Secretary.

Dr. Randall Bradberry reviewed the 1997/1998 MACJC Budget.

Dr. Bradberry also reported on the results of the MACJC Basketball Tournaments. The Association also voted to authorize Dr. Bradberry to meet with the MACJC Executive Committee and the Athletic Directors to develop and recommend guidelines defining responsibilities for spectator and player control.

Dr. Randall Bradberry reported on a meeting with the Executive Director of the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame, Mr. Michael Rubenstein, about the possibility of including more community and junior college players.

The Association voted to decline an offer from Frascogna, Courtney, Smith & Dyre, to sponsor the Mississippi Community and Junior College All-Star Game, and will continue to allow Northeast Mississippi Community College to sponsor the event.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Olon Ray gave an update on the purchase of thirteen mobile learning labs.

Dr. Ray distributed copies of information on the upcoming CET Technology and Economic Development Workshop set for April 29 and 30, 1998, at the Holiday Inn Southwest in Jackson (Exhibit A). He asked Board members to mark their calendars to attend. The event will be limited to approximately 120 participants, 50 business leaders, 15 community and junior college presidents, 8 university presidents, representatives from the superintendent and administrators groups, key legislators, the lieutenant governor, governor, and representatives of the Department of Economic and Community Development. Dr. Ray asked the Board members to review a list of invitees and offer input of names of other business leaders to be invited.

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Dr. Ray then shared that he planned to be at an Industry Appreciation Luncheon at East Mississippi Community College on April 9, 1998. The out-of-town trip is the only one currently scheduled between now and the April Board meeting.

Dr. Ray also announced that the Organizational Committee of the SBCJC Funding and Formula Study Committee has a meeting scheduled for 1:30 p.m. today.

Dr. Ray reported on the Phi Theta Kappa All-State Academic Team Recognition Luncheon held at the Ramada Coliseum on March 18, 1998, and the community and junior college celebration of fifty years of choral music in Mississippi held in Jackson on February 21, 1998.

Dr. Wayne Stonecypher gave a report on the status of legislation that would establish Advanced Technology Centers across the state. George Walker read a resolution prepared by the State Workforce Council dated March 11, 1998, urging the Governor and State Legislature to follow the recommendations of the Educational Study completed for the Institutions of Higher Learning in considering the needs for any advanced technology center. Also, the resolution further recommends that no action be taken to create any advanced technology center that is not consistent with the spirit and recommendation from the Institutions of Higher Education Study.

Dr. Ray reported that Ray Smith, SBCJC Information Management Specialist, has resigned and efforts are underway to find a replacement for that position.

REPORTS/ACTION

Finance Report

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by Yvonne Brown, the Board voted unanimously to approve General Fund 2298 disbursements for April, May and June 1998, the respective amounts of \$8,572,586, \$7,145,125, and \$7,145,126 (Exhibit B).

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by Patricia Puckett, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement for March 31, 1998, from funds 4080, 4110, and 4301 in the amount of \$2,104,009.06 (Exhibit C).

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by Billy Hewes, the Board voted unanimously to approve the purchase of materials for the Resource Center Library in the amount of \$35,054.64 (Exhibit D).

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by Henry Hudspeth, the Board voted unanimously to approve the payment for a fidelity bond for the SBCJC and staff to Ross and Yerger, Inc., in the amount of \$1,082.00.

Also included on the finance committee agenda were financial statements for Funds 2291, 3291, and 4300 (Exhibit E). No action was required.

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Program Committee

Upon staff recommendation, a motion by Joanna Heidel, and a second by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to place the following vocational-technical programs on probation:

- Emergency Medical Technology (Technical and Certificate Level Options) -
Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Wesson
- Diesel Equipment Repair (Technical and Certificate Level Options) -
Itawamba Community College, Tupelo
- Auto Machinist (Certificate Level Option) -
Jones County Junior College, Ellisville
- Diesel Equipment Repair (Certificate Level Option) -
Mississippi Delta Community College, Moorhead.

Upon staff recommendation, a motion by Joanna Heidel, and a second by Sara Fox, the Board voted unanimously to remove the following vocational-technical programs from probationary status:

- Supervision and Management (Technical Level Option) and
Automotive Services (Technical and Certificate Level Options) -
East Mississippi Community College, Golden Triangle
- Carpentry (Certificate Level Option) -
Hinds Community College, Raymond.

Funding and Formula Committee

John Junkin reported on a meeting via the CCN on February 23, 1998, to discuss proposed language changes for the 1999 appropriations bill which would allow for payment of student enrollees who were registered for the fall semester but attended after the end of the first six weeks. After discussion a determination was made to refer the matter to the full Funding and Formula Study Committee for action as part of the overall revision project.

Workforce Education Report

Mr. Walker distributed a copy of statistics prepared with regard to selected characteristics of working-age Mississippians based on the U. S. Bureau of Census 1990 figures, prepared by Dr. Phil Pepper, State Economist (Exhibit F). Dr. Pepper has approached Chairman Walker with the idea of establishing a representative group from the State which would include member(s) of the SBCJC and State Workforce Council, to examine ways to raise the per capita income for Mississippians. After a discussion the Board requested staff to contact Dr. Phil Pepper to ask if the statistical comparisons could be updated using more current figures and invite him to participate in the next Board meeting.

Mr. Walker commented on an article in the Clarion Ledger stating that the Babcock and Wilcox plant in West Point, Mississippi will remain open while a sister plant in Paris, Texas is scheduled for closure. The State Workforce Council has worked with the company in order to keep the West Point facility open.

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Mr. Walker announced that the State Workforce Council is planning to sponsor regional legislative meetings with Mississippi employers across the state during the summer. The brief social occasions will include presentations from business, the State Workforce Council, and SBCJC staff outlining workforce education needs for the state.

Mr. Walker also commented on the Holmes Community College Career Center's Wellness program.

Mississippi State University is applying for a School-to-Work federal grant and Mr. Walker and Ed Schneider have been invited to participate in the process.

The Committee for Support of Public Education of the State Workforce Council is continuing its efforts to explore ways in which leaders of the business community might work with the State Department of Education and local school districts to ensure that students stay in school and graduate prepared with skills that would allow them to be successful members of Mississippi's workforce.

Legislative Report

Dr. Wayne Stonecypher reviewed the status of House and Senate bills that affect the community and junior colleges. Dr. Stonecypher and Deborah Gilbert also reviewed the support and administration budget figures.

GED Report

Eloise Richardson updated SBCJC members on the activities of the GED Office. She also announced the Mississippi Association of Adult and Community Educators Conference set for June 17, 18, and 19, 1998, in Vicksburg, Mississippi. Mrs. Richardson presented copies of flyers and postcards that will be distributed statewide announcing information on Adult Basic Education classes.

Legislative Accountability Policy

Dr. Wayne Stonecypher distributed copies of a recommendation from the State Workforce Council pertaining to the SBCJC Legislative Accountability Report process (Exhibit G). On a motion by John Junkin, and a second by William Seal, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendation to begin the administrative procedures process for the Legislative Accountability Report guidelines and procedures. After the procedure is complete, the policy will be presented to the Board for formal approval.

Travel Authorizations

Chairman Walker asked for requests to authorize travel reimbursements for events other than regularly scheduled Board meetings. On a motion by John Junkin, seconded by Patricia Puckett, the Board voted unanimously to approve a request for reimbursement of travel expenses as follows:

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George Walker for speaking at a program at Coahoma Community College on March 6, 1998.

George Walker, Billy Hewes, Hazel Terry, Patricia Puckett, William Seal, and Henry Hudspeth for attending the Phi Theta Kappa All-State Academic Team Recognition Luncheon on March 18, 1998.

Election of Officers

Mr. Walker opened the floor for nominations for the office of SBCJC Chairman. Henry Hudspeth nominated George Walker to serve as SBCJC Chairman. John Junkin made a motion, seconded by Sara Fox, that the nominations be closed. Motion passed unanimously. John Junkin, made a motion that Mr. Walker be elected chairman by acclamation. Motion passed unanimously

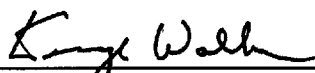
Mr. Walker opened the floor for nomination for the office of SBCJC Vice-Chairman. Patricia Puckett nominated Henry Hudspeth to serve as SBCJC Vice-Chairman. Billy Hewes made a motion, seconded by Joanna Heidel that the nominations be closed. Motion passed unanimously. Billy Hewes made a motion that Mr. Hudspeth be elected Vice-Chairman by acclamation. Motion passed unanimously.

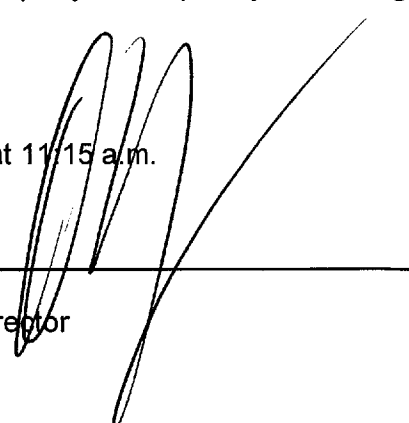
OTHER BUSINESS

In light of the recent fire that destroyed Cain Hall at the Raymond Campus of Hinds Community College, Patricia Puckett made a suggestion that the Board examine the fire insurance coverage at the community and junior colleges to ensure that the property is adequately insured against loss.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.


George Walker, Chairman


Olon E. Ray
Executive Director